Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 05833 261246Z

44
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 AF-08

IO-13 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 OMB-01 CU-02 /092 W
---------- 001303
R 261159Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8340
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
USMISSION NATO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 5833

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PO
SUBJ: ALEA: A COMMUNIST BRAND OF LITERACY

REF: LISBON 5751 (DTG 231649Z AUG 76)

SUMMARY: ALFA BRIGADES, WHICH SPREAD COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA UNDER THE GUISE OF A LITERACY CAMPAIGN, RECEIVED FUNDING FROM THE COMMUNIST YOUTH SECRETARY IN THE AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT. SOCIALIST EDUCATION MINISTER SOTTOMAYOR CARDIA HAS CUT OFF FUNDING AND REPLACED YOUTH SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS WITH HIS OWN MEN. END SUMMARY.

1. ALFA ALARM: CONSERVATIVE NEWSPAPERS SOUNDED THE ALARM IN RECENT WEEKS REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LISBON 05833 261246Z

OF THE GOVERNMENT-FUNDED ALFA LITERACY CAMPAIGN,

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

A COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA EFFORT REMINISCENT OF THE
"AGIT-PROP" BRIGADES SENT TO THE RURAL NORTH
IN 1975. ALFA SPREAD A COMMUNIST INTERPRETATION
OF PORTUGUESE HISTORY. PUBLISHED ALFA TEACHING
AIDS CRITICIZED THE ARMED FORCES AND PRAISED THE
AGRARIAN REFORM EFFORTS OF THE GONCALVES GOVERNMENTS.

2. WHAT IS ALFA: ALFA WAS ORGANIZED IN EARLY 1976
BY COMMUNIST STUDENTS IN THE FACULTY OF LETTERS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF LISBON. ALFA OPERATES IN MOBILE
BRIGADES OF 5 TO 20 STUDENTS WITH SPECIALITIES IN
THEATER, SPORTS, AND TEACHING. INSTRUCTORS ARE DRAWN
FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. ALFA
BEGAN FIELD OPERATIONS AUGUST 2, 1976 AND HAS 329
STUDENTS ACTIVE IN THE FIELD, A GREAT MAJORITY OF
THEM IN ALENTEJO COOPERATIVES. TEACHING MATERIALS
ARE BASED ON THE PAULO FREIRE METHOD AND ARE
ORIENTED TOWARD COMMUNIST DOCTRINE AND PRACTICE.
ALFA RECEIVED MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND, ACCORDING TO ALFA
ORGANIZERS, FROM THE SOUTHERN MILITARY REGION. ALFA
ALSO RAISED 3,000 DOLLARS IN PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS.
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FUNDING WAS PROVIDED BY
THE FUND TO ASSIST YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS (FAOJ)
UNDER THE COMMUNIST STATE SECRETARY FOR YOUTH
AND SPORTS IN THE AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT. FAOJ DREW
LIBERALLY FROM ITS FIVE MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET TO
SUPPORT PCP POLITICAL CAUSES, INCLUDING ALFA AND
THE PRINTING OF POLITICAL POSTERS.

3. SOARES GOVERNMENT CRACKS DOWN: SOCIALIST
MINISTER OF EDUCATION SOTTOMAYOR CARDIA TOLD
THE PRESS AUGUST 13 THAT HE WAS CUTTING OFF
MINISTRY SUBSIDIES TO ALFA. CARDIA CRITICIZED
ALFA'S LIMITED TECHNICAL CAPABILITY TO CONDUCT
A LITERACY CAMPAIGN AND SAID ALFA WAS AN
OBVIOUS VEHICLE FOR POLITICAL PROPAGANDA. CARDIA
NOTED ALFA WAS FREE TO CONTINUE AS A PRIVATE
MOVEMENT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

4. COMMENT: THE COMMUNISTS TOOK MAXIMUM POLITICAL
ADVANTAGE OF THEIR CONTROL OF THE YOUTH AND SPORTS
SECRETARIAT. CARDIA HAS AGAIN DEMONSTRATED HIS
RESOLVE TO END COMMUNIST ABUSES IN THE EDUCATION
MINISTRY (REFTEL). ARMY SOURCE TOLD ARMA THAT MILITARY
HAD BEEN VERY CONCERNED OVER ALFA'S ANTI-MILITARY PROPAGANDA.
CARLUCCI

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROPAGANDA, PUBLICATIONS, FUND ALLOTMENT, COMMUNISTS, YOUTH GROUPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON05833
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760326-0047
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760817/aaaaaooe.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LISBON 5751
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAR 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALEA: A COMMUNIST BRAND OF LITERACY
TAGS: PINT, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006